



Welcome to the TILES Newsletter No. 3

I would like to take this opportunity to announce the recent, and very significant, appointment of Professor Jenny Fleming to the Institute and to extend to her a very warm welcome from all of us at TILES. Jenny's appointment as Research Professor is extremely significant in that the Institute now has an experienced researcher with expertise in policing as a core member of the team. We wish to thank the Dean of Arts, Professor Jan Pakulski, and the former Pro-Vice Chancellor (Research) Professor Andrew Glenn for supporting her appointment through the provision of funding under the University's strategic initiative program. With Jenny on board, TILES is now in a strong position to increase its research profile nationally and internationally and to conduct research more specifically on matters relating to policing *per se*. This is a very exciting time for the Institute – Jenny and I are working together to prepare an extensive program of research over the next few years that will see TILES consolidate its reputation for quality research in the

field of law enforcement.

There will be dedicated space in the TILES newsletters for Jenny to inform you of her research activities and outputs. In the meantime, I can report that she and I, together with Inspector Matthew Richman of Tasmania Police, attended the International Committee for the Prevention of Crime Conference held in Canberra in September. This conference was jointly organised with the Australian Institute of Criminology and we thank the Director of the AIC, Toni Makkai, for supporting our attendance. Matthew's presentation on the *Streetsafe* project provided an opportunity to profile both TILES and Tasmania Police and to demonstrate the nature of our successful research collaborations. Jenny's well-established connections in Canberra ensured that the others attending the conference were made aware of the Institute's work.

Next year we are planning to produce the newsletter on a more regular basis, to establish a regular seminar series and Jenny has been successful in



receiving funding from the Academy of Social Sciences to hold a workshop in September 2007. We will provide you with more information on these events in future newsletters so please keep an eye out for them!

Finally, on behalf of all of us at TILES, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and look forward to keeping in touch with you in 2007.

Roberta Julian

*Associate Professor and Director
Tasmanian Institute of Law
Enforcement Studies*

Would you like to receive this newsletter?

This TILES Newsletter, is distributed by post to over 500 key stakeholders. In particular to:

- the police in Tasmania - police inspectors, managers, policy and research officers, regional police stations;
- the equivalent interstate police departmental managers and policy officers;
- Tasmanian elected representatives in state and national politics;
- relevant State government departmental heads and agency heads;
- Tasmanian local government general managers and mayors;
- all Tasmanian and relevant interstate libraries;
- Australian crime authorities;

- Australian university departments of criminology, law enforcement and law;
- Australian research centres with related research agenda; and
- International police research bodies.

Past copies of the TILES Newsletter as well as the TILES Briefing Papers which are produced on a regular basis are available on the TILES website. <http://www.utas.edu.au/tiles>. If you are reading this Newsletter and would like to be included on our mailing list, please contact TILES.



New Appointment Professor Jenny Fleming

I joined TILES in July 2006. My specific role is to encourage a strong research culture in TILES and facilitate research in the law enforcement and policing research areas. I will also provide supervision to PhD students in TILES. My various responsibilities include the TILES newsletter, briefing papers and other TILES publications. I am open to ideas for internal/external seminars and workshops.

I am also committed to fostering a strong postgraduate culture in TILES. As you can see in this newsletter we have a strong team of postgraduates here in TILES and a wealth of research experience we can all benefit from.

I have been working with police organisations both in Australia and the UK/US for over 15 years. I am a strong supporter of participatory action

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research with the emphasis on practitioner involvement particularly in the context of police research. Prior to joining TILES, I was a Fellow at the Australian National University in Canberra working with the Australian Federal Police (ACT Policing) as the coordinator of an ARC funded linkage project, *Policing in the 21st Century*.

I am a member of several boards including: the Alcohol and Other Drugs Council Board of Australia; the Australian Council of Women and Police, the Australian Crime Prevention Council and Crimestoppers Australia. I was recently appointed academic panel adviser to the Criminology Research Council at the Australian Institute of Criminology in Canberra. My research interests include, police management, police-government relations, police-community partnerships and organisational change. I have published widely both nationally and internationally in these areas. My recent book, (with Jennifer Wood), *Fighting Crime Together: The Challenge of Policing and Security Networks* was published in October 2006.

I am very excited about working with the TILES team and Tasmania Police. The nexus between researchers and practitioners is an increasingly important one. We all have a lot to learn from each other and research informed policy and practice is a central element of such partnerships.

Please feel free to come and talk to me about your research and any ideas you have for publications, seminars or workshops. If you just want a chat I'm always ready for a coffee! I can be contacted on 03) 6226 2393 or jenny.fleming@utas.edu.au.

TILES Strategic Planning

The Director

The Review of TILES conducted in August 2005 was carried out in line with requirements of the Memorandum of Understanding between the University and the Department of Police and Emergency Management (DPEM). A major recommendation from the TILES Review Board in September 2005 was

"That the TILES Board hosts a Strategic Planning Workshop with all major stakeholders, including UTAS, DPEM and other relevant State Departments, community representatives and TILES staff to clarify the strategic focus and themed areas of TILES."

Two very successful Strategic Planning Workshops were held in August. Both were facilitated by Ms Lea Symonds, Senior Consultant with Personal Strengths Australia, and achieved significant outcomes. The first, held on 2 August, involved TILES staff, postgraduate students and the current and future Heads of the School of Government. We spent the day working through the Institute's vision, mission, strategic priorities and aspirations for the future. The outcome was a draft Strategic Plan that we were able to present at the second Strategic Planning Day on 15 August. This involved key stakeholders including members of the Board of Directors, Tasmania Police and the University of Tasmania. We ended with some clear directions in regard to finalising the Strategic Plan which was finally signed off at the Board of Directors Meeting in November. Our key strategic priorities were identified as: research, teaching, communication and professionalism. A copy of the Strategic Plan is available on the TILES website. We are now in the process of developing a Business Plan that will enable us to action these priorities.

My sincere thanks to all of those who took the time to engage in the strategic planning process, particularly to the Chair of the Board, Richard Bingham, for his commitment to the process. The outcomes have been well worth the effort.

Welcome new TILES PhD Candidates for 2007

TILES is delighted to introduce the first of its new PhD candidates for 2007.

Cecile McEwen (PhD TILES)

Cecile has enjoyed an extensive and successful career in the alcohol and drug sector with 20 years of experience at a number of management and advisory levels in Queensland and most recently Tasmania. She has extensive experience in national and state centred policy development and has presented widely at national and state conferences and forums. She brings academic experience from the health sciences area of the addiction field that will be applied to the further development of public alcohol policy. She is a recipient of a number of professional achievement awards and is a current member of the Australasian Professional Society for Alcohol and Other Drugs.



Thesis Title:

What are the benefits in analysing modern biological and psychological theories of dependence for future public alcohol policy and population level interventions in Australia.

Abstract:

This Thesis will analyse modern biological and psychological theories of dependence to ascertain the benefits to be gained for the future direction of public policy as well as population level strategies for alcohol in Australia.

- The case for Government alcohol policy will be established;
- The present harm reduction approach to alcohol policy will be investigated for evidence of effectiveness;
- The nature of the correlation between government alcohol policy and the extent of alcohol related harms will be explored and established;
- Modern biological and psychological theories of dependence will be analysed to determine benefits for future alcohol policy direction and strategy development;
- An enhanced model of public alcohol policy and population level intervention will be established.

Cecile will be supervised by Professor Jenny Fleming and Associate Professor Roberta Julian.

The following candidates have taken up research with TILES and we look forward to featuring them in the next newsletter in 2007:

Craig Joel (PhD TILES)

Craig's research explores the legitimacy and credibility of police oversight in a modern democracy.

Megan Laugher (PhD TILES/Psychology)

Megan's research explores the influence of non-evidentiary factors in coronial verdicts in cases of equivocal death.

The Drugs/Crime Nexus

Detective Inspector Matthew Richman, Tasmania Police

There has, undoubtedly, been an indelible shift across many sectors in our attitudes to both licit and illicit drugs. Within the public sector, this saw a move towards a harm reduction (and later a harm minimisation) focus. Within Tasmania Police, this became evident with the implementation (in the early 1990's) of a comprehensive drug education program for youth, parents and the community more generally. The shift from a 'scare tactics' approach ('you will get locked-up and have a criminal record') to one that sought to inform has continued to evolve. The implementation of drug diversion strategies re-affirmed for many, that illicit drug use was both a health issue and a legal issue.

Anecdotally, many police officers draw a direct and distinct correlation between drugs and crime. Contextually, it is an easy link to draw. Research in this area, albeit with a joint focus on health issues, has flourished due to public policy drug strategy initiatives at both the Federal and State levels. Of course, research on the drugs/crime nexus has been occurring for many years. Indeed, the 1982 Rand Study (Ball et. al. 1981) examined the 'criminal' behaviour of heroin 'addicts' when addicted and not addicted. For them, a 'crime day' was defined as a 24 hour period in which a person committed one or more crimes. The Study involved 243 males with a similar history of crime, addiction and abstinence from drugs. They found that, when addicted, there was an average of 248 crime days per year per person. This compared to 41 crime days per year when not addicted.

There is a general recognition that violent crimes (e.g. sexual assaults, armed robberies) and disturbances to public order occur through drug use (e.g. methamphetamine, GBH, alcohol, and mixing drugs), and that crimes of dishonesty occur to secure funds to purchase illicit drugs and feed habits.

From an operational policing perspective, much has changed in the drug and crime scene since 1982. As an example, the introduction of a range of new 'party drugs' and the 'rave scene', together with a changing demographic of users and suppliers, has required a complete re-examination of investigative techniques. Moreover, there has also been a changed emphasis on where policing efforts will be concentrated (largely in line with the recognition that users are likely to benefit more from interventions that treat the matter as a 'health issue' initially). As such, attention is focussed on sellers, suppliers, traffickers and manufacturers.

The 'spiking' of drinks with GBH ('fantasy') as a precursor to predatory sexual assaults by males on females, is often rumoured to have occurred. Little evidence exists in Tasmania that it is readily available. Toxicological examination of sexual assault victims have found predominantly, that they have been affected by tranquilisers and/or alcohol. In recent years several males have received lengthy terms of imprisonment for rapes and other sexual offences that occurred following drink spiking.

Front-line policing encounters, on a daily basis, both licit and illicit drug related incidents. Operationally, police training is increasingly focussed on maintaining up-to-date knowledge of drug variations and how to identify them. Moreover, training must involve a capacity to recognise when people are affected by drugs to ensure that the police response is appropriate. To say that it is a 'tightrope' understates the situation. In this respect, police are now responding to drug incidents in which offenders are less rational, unpredictable, and increasingly more violent. The following incident epitomises the key challenges:

The woman was about thirty, 150cm tall and could not have weighed more than 50 kg. We knew she had speed and alcohol on board. Her behaviour was erratic, irrational – swinging from mellow to

'The System Matters' 13-14 November 2006, Brisbane

Romy Winter: Conference Report

Romy Winter (TILES PhD candidate) received funding from the School of Government to attend this seminar which focused on program development and criminal justice system responses to victims of domestic and family violence (and those who perpetrate the violence).

Keynote speaker was Dr Ed Gondolf, Research Director of the Mid-Atlantic Addiction Training Institute and Professor of Sociology at the Indiana University of Pennsylvania. Dr Gondolf is the principal investigator in the longest study of perpetrator program effectiveness to date; a seven-year multi-site investigation of perpetrator intervention which involved 856 perpetrators and their female partners.

Dr Gondolf spoke about the challenges in implementing these studies, which involved about 12,000 interviews over the period. Perpetrators had new partners in 25% of cases, with some having five partners during the study period. The main findings were that the men who entered the program voluntarily were more likely to re-assault than court-referred men. Court mandated counselling made a difference in re-abuse for a substantial proportion of perpetrators but not all. Over one-third of men re-assaulted their initial or new partner during the 15 months after program intake and almost half re-assaulted a partner during the four year follow-up (includes those who dropped out of the program as well as those who completed). Men were half as likely to assault new partners; almost all men who assaulted a new partner had previously re-assaulted their initial partners. Two-thirds of those men who re-assaulted their partners did so within nine months, after which there was substantial de-escalation of re-assault and other abuse. The vast majority of men were not violent for a sustained period. At the 30 month period - over 80% had not re-assaulted their partner in the previous year, and at 48 months, over 90% had not re-assaulted. Other findings were that men who attended a program for two months or more were less likely to re-assault than those that dropped out. Most men reported relying on behavioural constraint to avoid being violent. About 20% changed their attitudes toward women, according to the women's reports.

Dr Gondolf stressed that a coordinated response system needs more than coordinated procedures and education; there is a need to close gaps which allows family violence to perpetuate.

The breadth and depth of issues raised during this conference by a variety of speakers demonstrates that the criminal justice response to domestic violence is still evolving, with evaluations of innovative pilot programs and academic research informing programs and practices across Australia.

anger. Without warning she exploded into a rage; the extent of which I had never before encountered. She picked up a double door cabinet that dwarfed her and threw it across the room. It took seven of us, six males and one female, to restrain her.

Reference

Ball, J C, Rosen, L, Fluek, J A and Nurco, D N, 1981. "The Criminality of Heroin Addicts; When Addicted and When Off Opiates", in Inciardi, J A, The Drugs-Crime Connection, Sage Publications, London

Acknowledgement: Detective Inspector Glen Frame, Tasmania Police

This article was previously published in ADCA News, November 2006.

TILES Consultancy - Fire Safety for Ethiopian Community in Southern Tasmania

Danielle Campbell reports

TILES PhD candidate, Danielle Campbell has been invited to be a consultant on this very innovative project.

Tasmanian State Emergency Service (SES), Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and University of Tasmania representatives recently attended an Emergency Management Australia (EMA) sponsored Culturally and Linguistically Diverse Communities (CALD) workshop at Mt Macedon in Victoria as part of a broader commitment by the Commonwealth Government of Australia to improve emergency management approaches to CALD communities in Australia.

As part of a pilot project aimed at ultimately enhancing emergency management for all CALD communities in Australia, Tasmanian representatives organised and conducted prevention or mitigation based fire education process within a defined CALD community of Tasmania, the Ethiopian Community.

The workshop ran on 25 November at the Cambridge Tasmania Fire Service Training Facility. It was attended by 80 members of the Ethiopian Community. This included 45 men and women, and 35 children. Specific education programs were delivered to these different age groups, with the assistance of two interpreters, which focused strongly on visual presentations, practical demonstrations and numerous 'hands on' experiences. Participants were able to use fire extinguishers, fire blankets to extinguish



real fires and see different types of fires, as they would naturally ignite in a domestic context.

As well as the intended education, valuable links and relationships were created with the Tasmania Fire Service representatives. This interaction lowers the communities' hesitation to utilise emergency services and the understanding by both the community and service providers impacts on how effectively the communication can be achieved during an incident. All enjoyed an Ethiopian lunch and everyone seemed to greatly enjoy the day.

Reflection on the process of communication and organisation on this event and the observation on content of the training day will be fed back in Mt Macedon in early December 2006. These will assist in supporting EMA to create possible templates for national initiatives for emergency management to work with CALD communities.

TILES Staff – Welcome

Jane Collidge TILES Executive Officer



Jane joined the TILES team in March, 2006 in the position of Executive Officer.

Jane has a degree in Arts and in Law and is responsible for providing executive support to the Management Committee and the Board of Directors amongst other tasks. Jane is located at the Department of Police and Emergency Management for the majority of the time, but can often be found at the School of Government each Wednesday.

The Director and the Management Committee warmly welcome two new staff members to TILES - Professor Jenny Fleming and Ms Jane Collidge.

New Social Norms Analysis Project Staff and Update

The Tasmanian Social Norms Analysis Project (SNAP) funded through the Alcohol Education Rehabilitation Foundation (AERF) is managed through TILES and has recently appointed its full compliment of project staff. TILES welcomes:

Dr Clarissa Hughes
SNAP Project Director

Ron Mason
SNAP Research Co-ordinator

Louise Hart
SNAP Local Project Officer, West Coast

Gillian Cove
SNAP Local Project Officer, Huon Valley

SNAP UPDATE

All three Chief Investigators on the Social Norms Analysis Project (SNAP), Dr Clarissa Hughes, the Director, Associate Professor Roberta Julian and Inspector Matthew Richman, attended the Alcohol Education and Rehabilitation Foundation (AERF) Showcase Conference, Sydney, 28-19 September.

Across the two days they learned about completed and ongoing projects around Australia that are funded by the AERF. Since 2001 more than 60 projects have been funded through AERF to the value of \$90 million.

The Chief Investigators of SNAP came away with a much better appreciation of research and projects being conducted around the country to reduce alcohol-related harm. In particular, they now have a clearer notion of how SNAP 'fits' within the wider alcohol research context, both within Tasmania and at the national level.

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